

## 26.12

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### Across

- 1** “Which came first?” Philosophical metaphor for situations where it is not clear which of two occurrences should be considered the cause and which the effect (Gaza blockade / Hamas terror attacks etc.) (7, 3, 3)
- 12** Villain in Shakespearean study of sociopathy
- 13** Capital of Bahamas
- 14** Iconic Kurt Russel role in dystopian John Carpenter films from 80s (with eyepatch) (5, 8)
- 16** Vast Romanesque cathedral in Cambridgeshire and burial site of Queen Etheldreda (d. 679) (also Bishop Nigel d.1169) with arresting octagon lantern tower added in 14<sup>th</sup> century
- 17** Shaggy bovid from Himalayas
- 18** Bag or pouch inside a plant or animal typically containing a fluid (also 1999 *Ween* classic *Craters of the ...* with arresting image of Gene Ween on cover)
- 20** Composer of legendarily difficult piano piece triggering nervous collapse in unstable savant in *Shine*
- 23** Beautiful flower and metonym for imperial rule in Japan
- 29** “Egghead Marries Hourglass” Celebrated US playwright referenced in *New York Times* headline of June 29<sup>th</sup>1956 (initials)
- 30** Gee, something is missing from this famous German writer (**WARNING** Cryptic)
- 31** Japanese word for tiger (also lightning attack when repeated with great intensity)
- 32** Exclamation (often Biblical) indicating that something momentous is to follow
- 34** *Red Desert* rerelease (initials)
- 35** Book containing information traditionally sold door to door
- 40** Place where pig lives associated with squalor
- 41** Allowed (in Islam) cf. haram (forbidden)
- 42** Italian town on Adriatic with incorrupt body of patron saint and martyr Judas Cyriacus known for aiding Empress Helena in search for True Cross in 13<sup>th</sup> century cathedral
- 43** Remonstrant prophet known for rebuke of Levites for child sacrifice (“Shall I give my firstborn for my transgressions, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”), prediction of future destruction (“Zion shall be plowed like a field, Jerusalem shall become heaps of ruins and the mountain of the temple like the bare hills of the forest”) and touching vision of goodness (“What doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?”)

## 26.12 (contd.)

### Across (contd.)

- 46** Place of higher learning (MIT, Yale, Sorbonne Bond on Gold Coast etc.)
- 47** Person from Riga (disemvoweled)
- 49** *Mar-a-...* Sprawling villa in Hispano-Moorish style at 1100 S. Ocean Blvd., Palm Beach, Florida (“sea to lake” in Spanish)
- 50** Personality type characterized by ruthlessness, cunning, duplicity, manipulation and absence of empathy and morality constituting with narcissism and psychopathy the Dark Triad

### Down

- 1** Latin prefix meaning “on this side of” (Alpine, Jordan, white ... male etc.)
- 2** Secret popstar identity of 14-year-old star of popular *Disney* franchise of same name (6, 7)
- 3** Incomprehensible Grimes album (initials)
- 4** Iconic drink (from US)
- 5** Iconic hotel (in St Kilda)
- 6** Having life
- 7** New *Airports* song (initials)
- 8** Donna Summer song (initials)
- 9** Invention cementing Australian reputation as the clever country (for keeping beer cold)
- 10** Earth goddess of Greek mythology and mother (by son Uranus) of all living things
- 11** Unpleasantly sticky or messy substance
- 15** Mysterious dedicatee of melancholy piece for piano by Beethoven
- 18** “And all that have not fins and ... in the seas, and in the rivers, and of any living thing which is in the waters, shall be an abomination unto you” Dietary laws in Leviticus concerning fish (regarded as *chukim* or instance of divine will with no comprehensible rational explanation and hence beyond human understanding)
- 19** Cardinal Richelieu *or* Charlie Rose (initials)
- 20** Rogers ‘n’ Hammerstein (initials)
- 21** Charlie Hebdo *or* Charles Hawtrey (initials)
- 22** No (Cyrillic)
- 24** Mixed-up American cello virtuoso (known for genre bending work with Bobby McFerrin, Mylie Cyrus and Sting)
- 25** Virgin princess known for prowess as runner, exposed at birth (for being a girl), suckled by she-bear, raised in forest by hunters, who struck first blow killing Calydonian boar (also amorous centaurs), tricked into marriage with Hippomenes (having sworn by Artemis to eschew men) after losing footrace due to irresistible golden apples of Aphrodite and transformed into a lion by angry goddess for losing virginity and defiling temple in moment of passion in ripping Greek myth cycle
- 26** Hero of Purim known for genocidal murder of 75,000 Persians (exercising right to defend oneself) in ripping foundational myth in Esther
- 27** Prescient 13<sup>th</sup> century Arab astronomer known for influence on Copernicus and heliocentrism
- 28** Long-distance footrace named after site of Greek victory over invading Persian army of 490 BCE and messenger Philippides who ran 42 miles to Athens (in nude) to deliver news
- 33** Something which gives physical or spiritual comfort (“There is a ... in Gilead / To make the wounded whole / There is a ... in Gilead To heal the sin-sick soul etc.”)
- 36** What was Antisthenes (also Diogenes, Crates of Thebes) (and Jesus)?
- 37** Alluring upper garment worn in subcontinent revealing midriff and belly button jewelry
- 38** Greatly loved king of Norway (4, 1)
- 39** Palestinian Authority *or* Pamela Anderson (initials)
- 44** “I hear my ... spirit sob in each blood cell / As if my hand were at its throat / I myself am hell blah blah blah” Robert Lowell *Skunk Hour*
- 45** Title in Arab world designating Shiite imam descended from Prophet Muhammed (PBUH) (“Your name it is heard in high places / You know the ... Khan / He sent you a racehorse for Christmas / And you keep it just for fun, for a laugh, ha-ha-ha” *Where Do You Go To (My Lovely)?*)
- 46** Verbal filler widely used while thinking of what to say next
- 48** *9-11* (initials)